

MARVEL®

PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN™



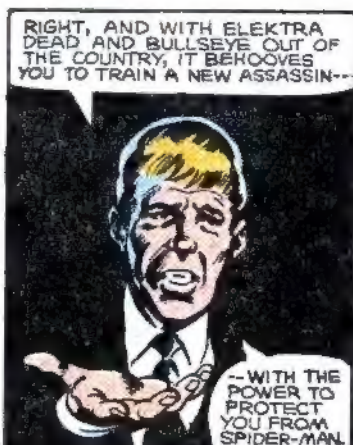
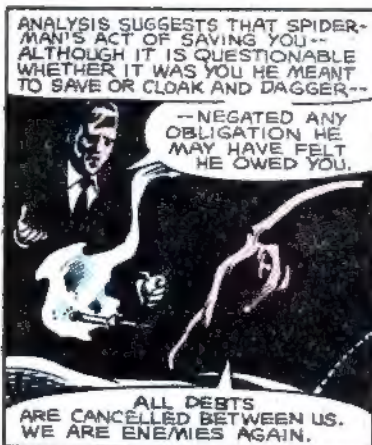
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APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

DON'T HATE
ME, SPIDER-MAN!
WHAT I DID, I
DID FOR YOUR
LOVE!



YOU'LL NEVER FORGET...
POWER-SEARCH!



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Stan Lee
PRESENTS:

POWER-SEARCH!

BILL MANTLO
STORY
AL MILGROM
PENCILS
JIM MOONEY
INKS
DIANA ALBERS
LETTERS
GLYNIS WEIN
COLORS
DANNY FINGEROTH
EDITOR
JIM SHOOTER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



THIS BEAUTIFUL
YOUNG WOMAN
IS FELICIA HARDY,
THE BLACK CAT.

TWO NIGHTS AGO,
SHE HAD IT ALL--
AND LOST IT.

TONIGHT SHE IS SEARCHING
FOR THE POWER TO GET
IT ALL BACK.

I LOVE
SPIDER-
MAN--

-- I WANT TO SHARE
THE NIGHT WITH HIM--

-- YET MY LACK
OF POWER ALMOST
COST HIM HIS LIFE
DURING OUR BATTLE
WITH THE COBRA
AND MISTER HYDE.

POWER.
SPIDER HAS
IT. AS DO
THE SUPER-
VILLAINS HE'S
INCESSANTLY
CALLED UPON
TO FIGHT.

COBRA AND HYDE,
DOCTOR OCTOPUS,
THE FLY... EVEN
SPIDER HIMSELF... THEY
WERE ALL NORMAL
HUMANS BEFORE THEY
ACQUIRED THEIR
ARTIFICIALLY DERIVED
POWERS...

... POWERS THAT PUT
THEM IN A DIFFERENT
LEAGUE THAN I CAN
EVER COMPETE IN!

BUT MY POWERLESS-
NESS MAKES ME A
LIABILITY, A DRAG
UPON THE MAN I LOVE--
ULTIMATELY, EVEN A
DANGER!

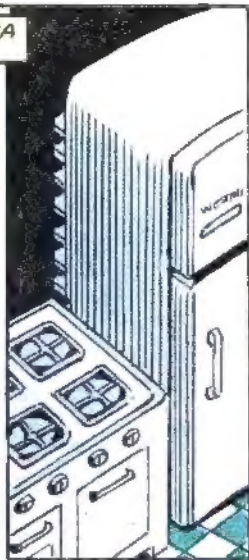
WHAT CAN I DO? I'VE
TRAINED MYSELF TO
BE AN INCREDIBLE
ACROBAT-- BUT MORE
AGILITY ISN'T ENOUGH!
I NEED MORE!

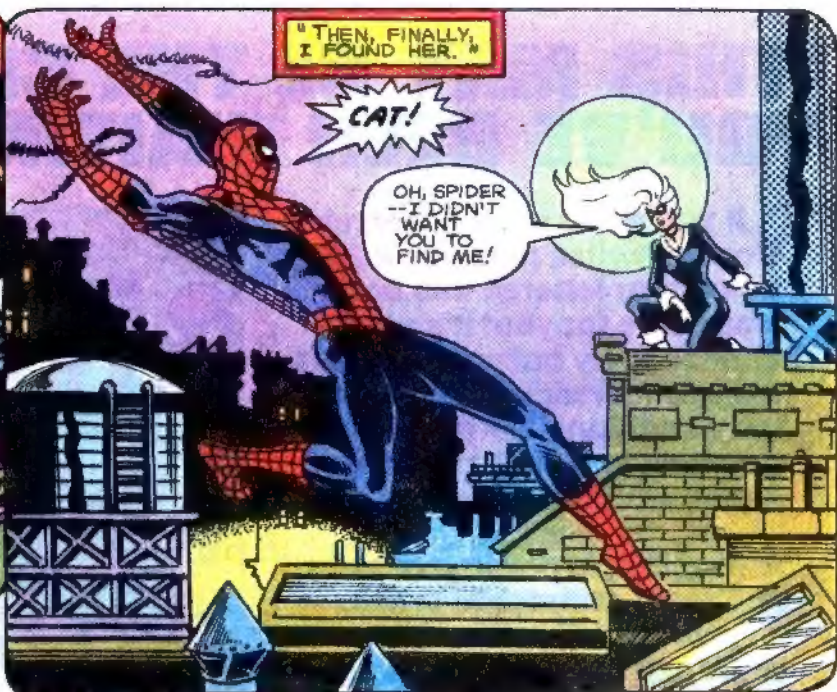
I'VE GOT TO
ACQUIRE SOME
SORT OF SUPER-
POWERS-- TO MAKE
ME EQUAL TO
SPIDER AND HIS
FOES...

AND GAIN
POWER I
WILL--

--OR
DIE TRYING!
PERHAPS.

THE FIRST FINGERS OF DAWN FIND A CERTAIN WEST CHELSEA APARTMENT HOUSE...





I-I BLAME MYSELF FOR THE FACT THAT YOU GOT HURT / IF YOU HADN'T BEEN TRYING TO PROTECT ME...





PETER PARKER IS ON THE VERGE OF OPENING HIS APARTMENT DOOR WHEN HE REALIZES...

I'M STILL WEARING MY SPIDER-TIGHTS!





...AND, TRUTHFULLY, I'VE BEEN CONCERNED.

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, PETE? YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'VE BEEN IN A FIGHT!

A FIGHT?

OH, YEAH-- THE BRUISES / I GOT 'EM TAKING PICTURES OF THE MR. HYDE / SPIDER-MAN BATTLE!



YOU PHOTO-GRAPHED THAT? AND WE NEVER SAW THE PRINTS??

I'VE BEEN BUSY, Y'KNOW? DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO DEVELOP THE FILM.

E DAY IN EVERY WAY BETTER



PETE, SOMETHING IS WRONG!

OVER THE YEARS, YOU'VE PROVEN YOURSELF ONE OF THE BEST PHOTOGRAPHERS THE BUGLE'S GOT!

YOU MAY NOT BE TECHNICALLY AS PROFICIENT AS LANCE BANNON, FOR INSTANCE--

--BUT YOU ALWAYS MAKE UP FOR IT IN THE PASSION WITH WHICH YOU TAKE YOUR PICTURES!

PASSION, ROBBIE?



I COULD TELL YOU A LOT ABOUT PASSION!

ABOUT HOW GOOD IT FEELS TO TRULY CARE ABOUT SOMEONE!

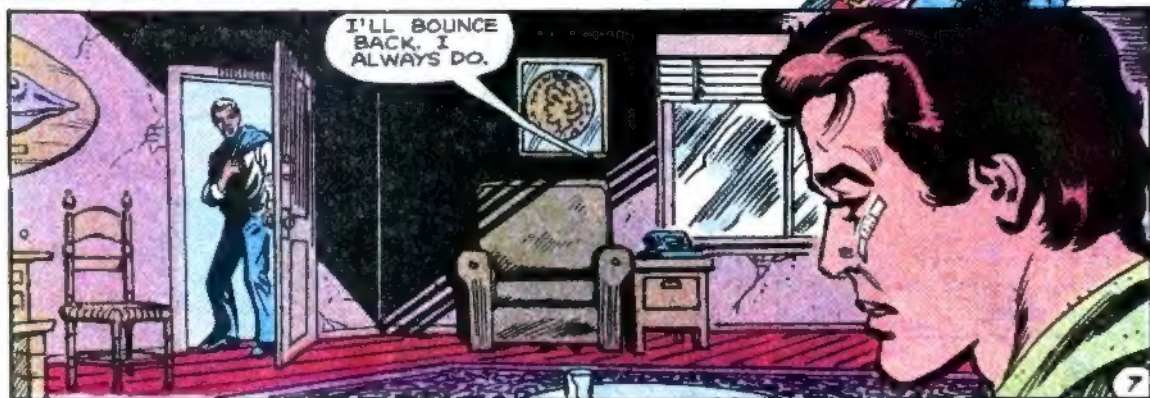
ABOUT WHAT IT MEANS... TO LOSE THAT SOMEONE!



SO THAT'S IT!

YOU WANT TO TALK, SON...?

NO, I-I THINK I JUST WANT TO BE ALONE. DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME.



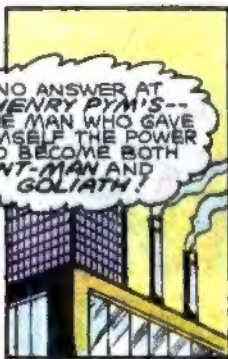
I'LL BOUNCE BACK, I ALWAYS DO.



OTHER POSSIBILITIES
SOON FALL EQUALLY
AS FLAT...



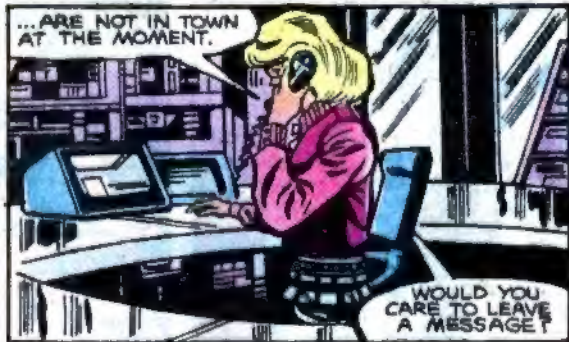
NO ANSWER AT
HENRY PYM'S--
THE MAN WHO GAVE
HIMSELF THE POWER
TO BECOME BOTH
ANT-MAN AND
GOLIATH!



CAN'T STOP MY EXPERIMENT AT THIS CRITICAL STAGE TO ANSWER THE PHONE...



AND THE
FANTASTIC
FOUR...



...ARE NOT IN TOWN
AT THE MOMENT.

WOULD YOU
CARE TO LEAVE
A MESSAGE?

NO! MAYBE I'M APPROACHING
THIS WRONG, TRYING AS
FELICIA HARDY TO
REACH OUT TO PEOPLE
POTENTIALLY CAPABLE
OF CREATING SOME
KIND OF SUPER-POWER
FOR ME--



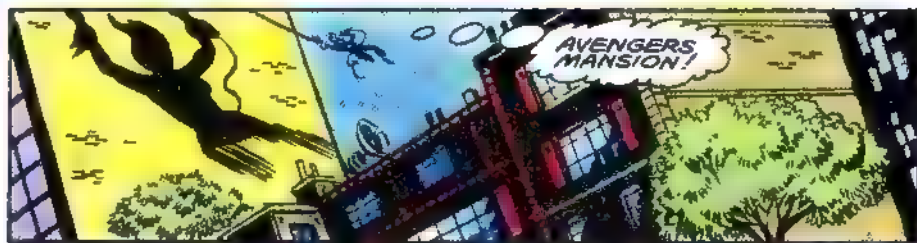
--INSTEAD
OF DOING IT THE
WAY THAT'S MOST
NATURAL FOR ME...



AS THE
BLACK
CAT!

THE EXCITEMENT
OF DONNING HER
COSTUME AGAIN IS
INTOXICATING.

IT IS FOR THESE
MOMENTS THAT
SHE LIVES.

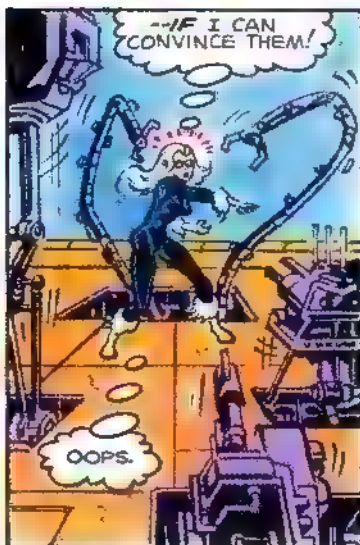


AVENGERS MANSION!



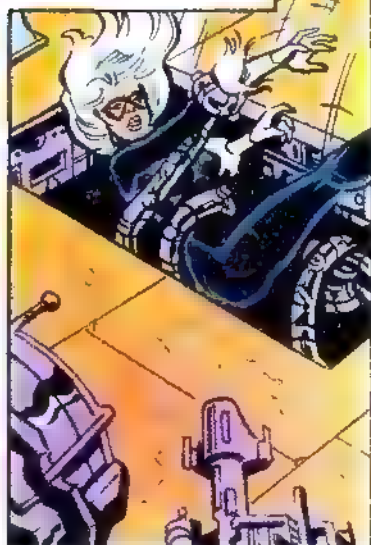
RUMOR HAS IT ITS DEFENSES ARE IM-PREGNABLE!

BUT THERE'S POWER HERE--AND ENOUGH SCIENTIFIC KNOW-HOW TO HELP ME--



--IF I CAN CONVINCE THEM!

OOPS.



WELL, WELL, WHAT HAVE WE HERE, WASP?

LOOKS LIKE A LITTLE LOST KITTY, CAP--A CAT COME IN FROM THE COLD!

A BLACK CAT..



--AND I'VE COME TO ACQUIRE A SUPER-POWER! I HAVE MONEY...



WHOA, YOUNG LADY! EVEN IF WE AVENGERS DID KNOW HOW TO CONFER SUPER-POWERS, ON PEOPLE, WE WOULDN'T DO IT FOR PEOPLE WE DON'T KNOW--

--AND CERTAINLY NOT FOR MONEY!

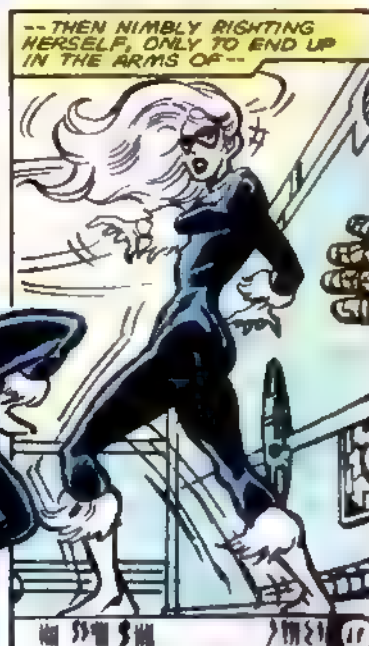
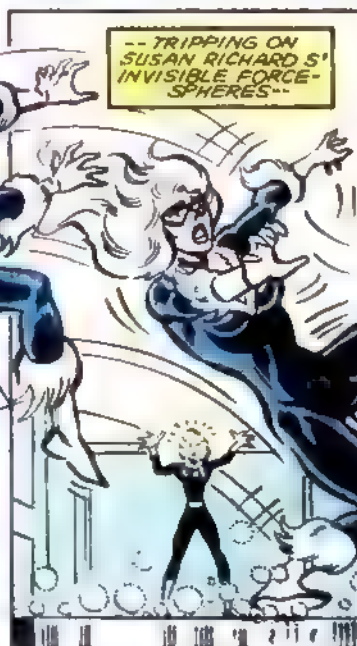
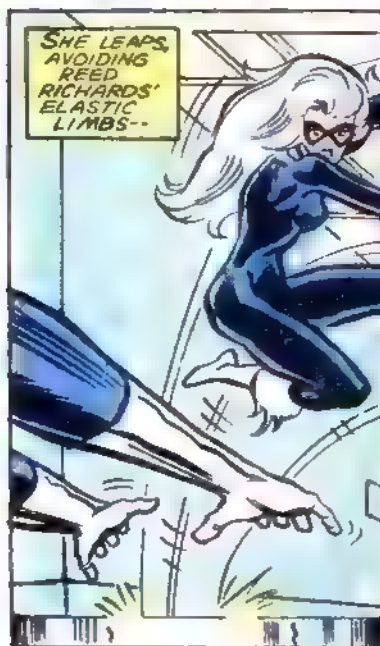
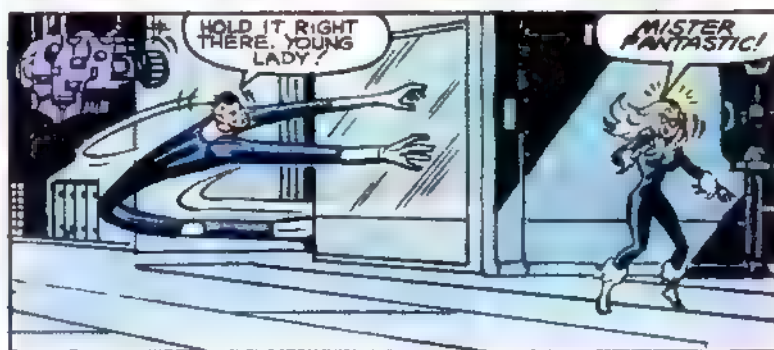
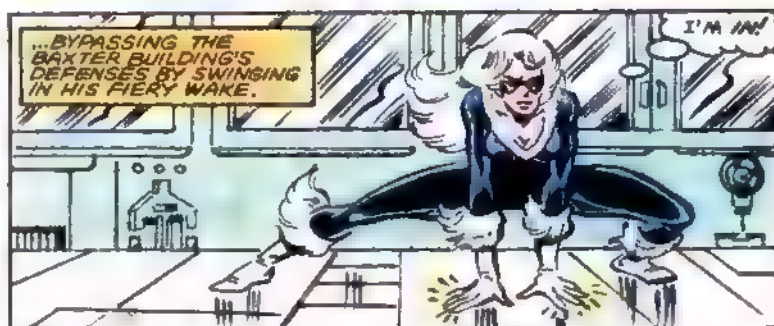
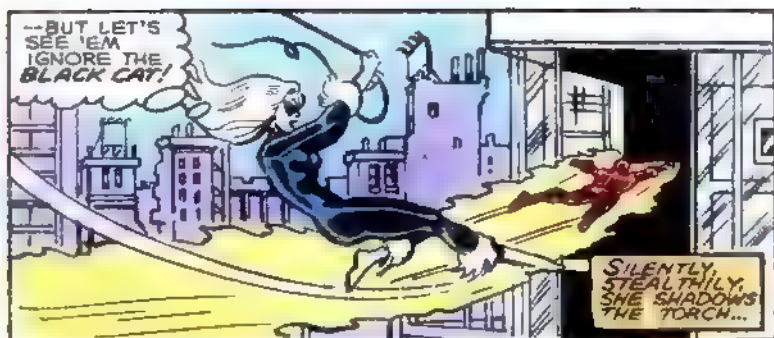
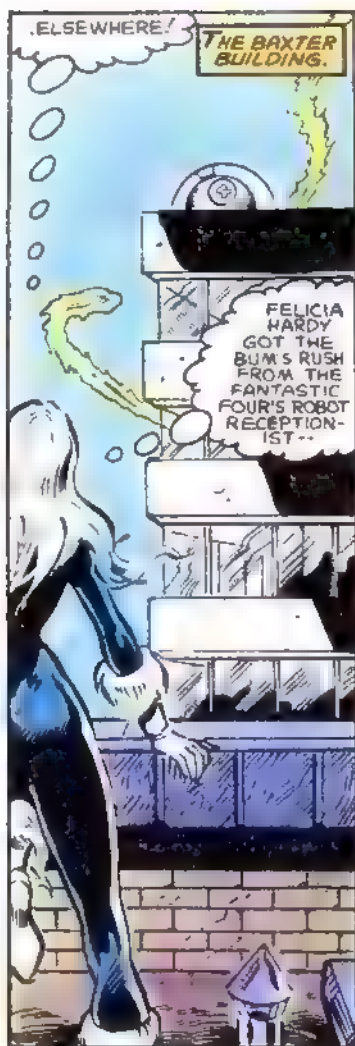
BESIDES, WEREN'T YOU ONCE WANTED BY THE LAW...?

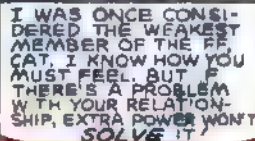
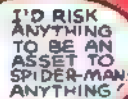
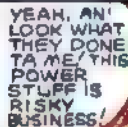
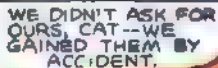
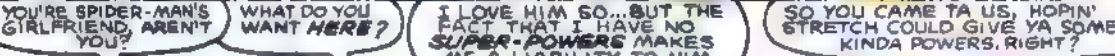
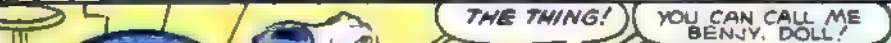


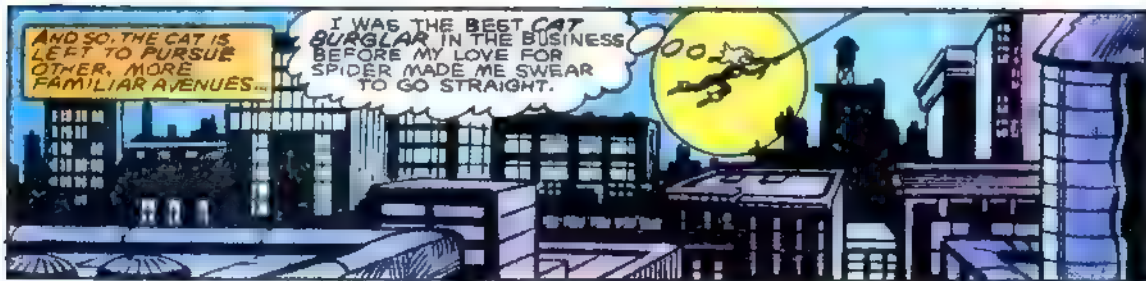
YES-- BEFORE I SAVED THIS CITY AND ALL YOUR UNGRATEFUL LIVES, /

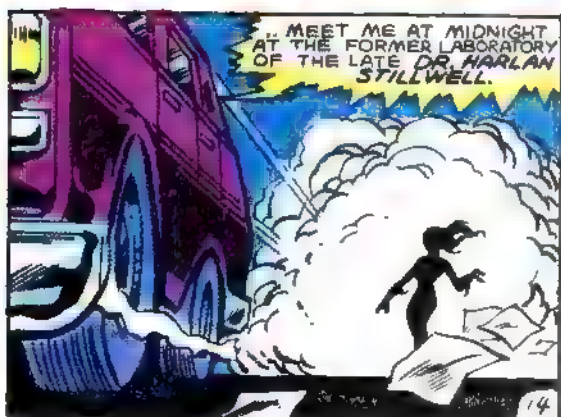
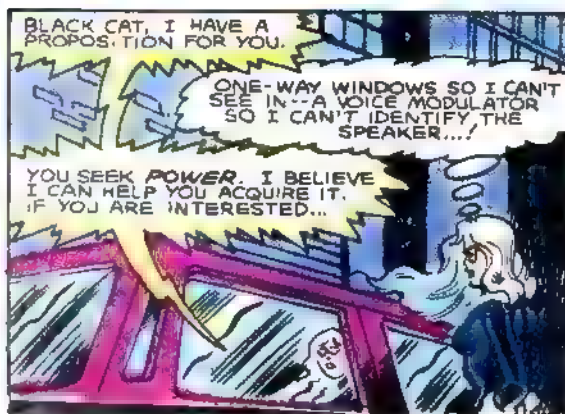
SO HOARD YOUR SECRETS, HEROES

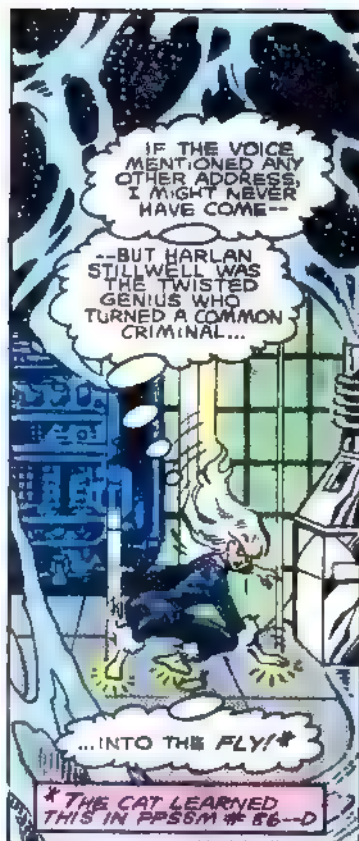
I'LL FIND POWER...











IF THE VOICE MENTIONED ANY OTHER ADDRESS, I MIGHT NEVER HAVE COME--

--BUT HARLAN STILLWELL WAS THE TWISTED GENIUS WHO TURNED A COMMON CRIMINAL...

...INTO THE FLY!*

*THE CAT LEARNED THIS IN PPSSM # 56--D



THE FLY SLEW STILLWELL, BUT IF THE SCIENTIST'S NOTES WERE PRESERVED...

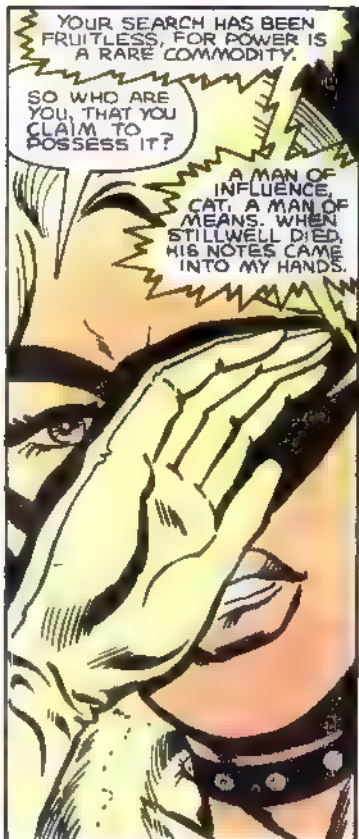
WELCOME, CAT. I TRUST YOUR PRESENCE HERE MEANS THAT YOU HAVE ACCEPTED MY OFFER.



THOSE SPOTLIGHTS--BLINDING. AND THE VOICE IS DISGUISED.

WHAT OFFER? WHAT'S THE DEAL?

COME NOW, CAT. YOU HAVE BEEN COMBING THE CRIMINAL UNDERWORLD FOR DAYS, SEEKING POWER.



YOUR SEARCH HAS BEEN FRUITLESS, FOR POWER IS A RARE COMMODITY.

SO WHO ARE YOU, THAT YOU CLAIM TO POSSESS IT?

A MAN OF INFLUENCE, CAT. A MAN OF MEANS. WHEN STILLWELL DIED, HIS NOTES CAME INTO MY HANDS.



THEY WERE MEANINGLESS TO ME--BUT NOT TO CERTAIN SCIENTISTS IN MY EMPLOY.

IF THEY WERE ABLE TO FIGURE OUT HOW STILLWELL CREATED THE FLY--



--THEN WHY DON'T THEY GIVE YOU THE POWER YOU'RE NOW OFFERING TO ME??

THERE IS POWER, CAT...AND THEN, THERE IS POWER. I HAVE MY OWN KIND, AND IT SATISFIES ME.

BUT YOU DESIRE A SO-CALLED **SUPER-POWER** THAT WILL PUT YOU ON A PAR WITH YOUR LOVER, **SPIDER-MAN**.

YOU MEAN... THE POWER MAY ALREADY BE INSIDE ME??

PERHAPS. PERHAPS NOT. PRELIMINARY TESTING WILL DETERMINE THAT.

AND I SUPPOSE YOU'RE DOING THIS FOR HUMANITARIAN REASONS?

NO. IF I SUCCEED IN GIVING YOU **POWER**, I REQUIRE, IN EXCHANGE, YOUR **SERVICES**.

SERVICES. AS WHAT? FOR WHAT?

I HAVE MANY... ENEMIES.



STILLWELL'S DISCOVERIES ARE CAPABLE OF **ENHANCING** THAT KIND OF POWER IN THOSE INNATELY SUSCEPTIBLE TO IT.

SO YOU WANT A **SUPER-POWERED BODY-GUARD**...

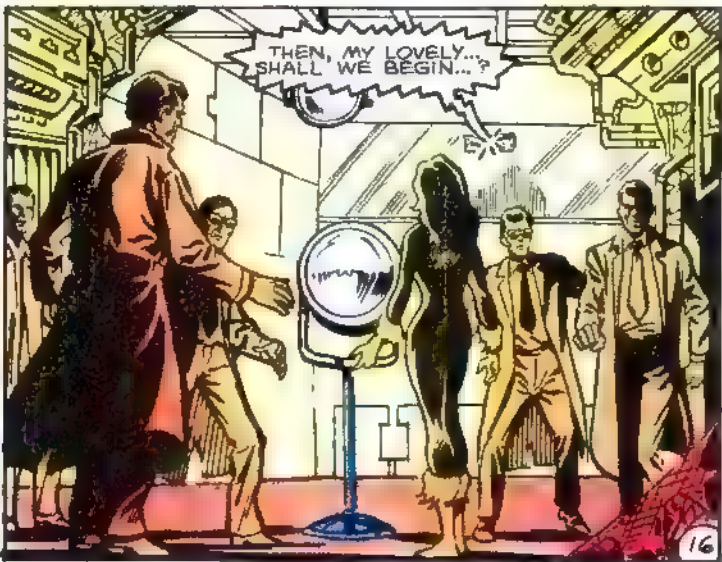
...AND SOMEONE TO PULL SOME SPECIAL JOBS AN AVERAGE SECOND STORY MAN COULDN'T!

ALL RIGHT, I'LL BARGAIN WITH THE DEVIL... EVEN PULL A FEW MINOR JOBS IF I HAVE TO...

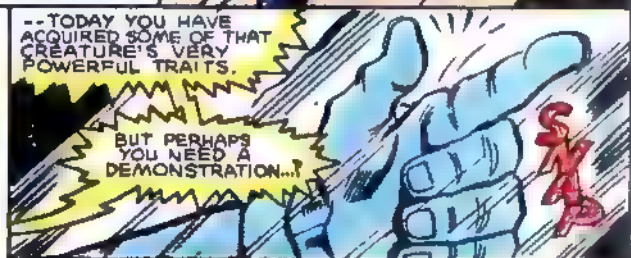
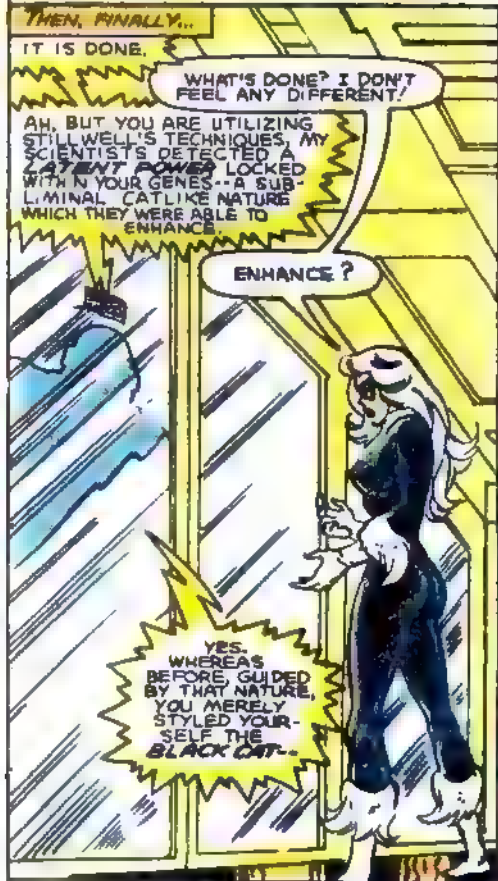
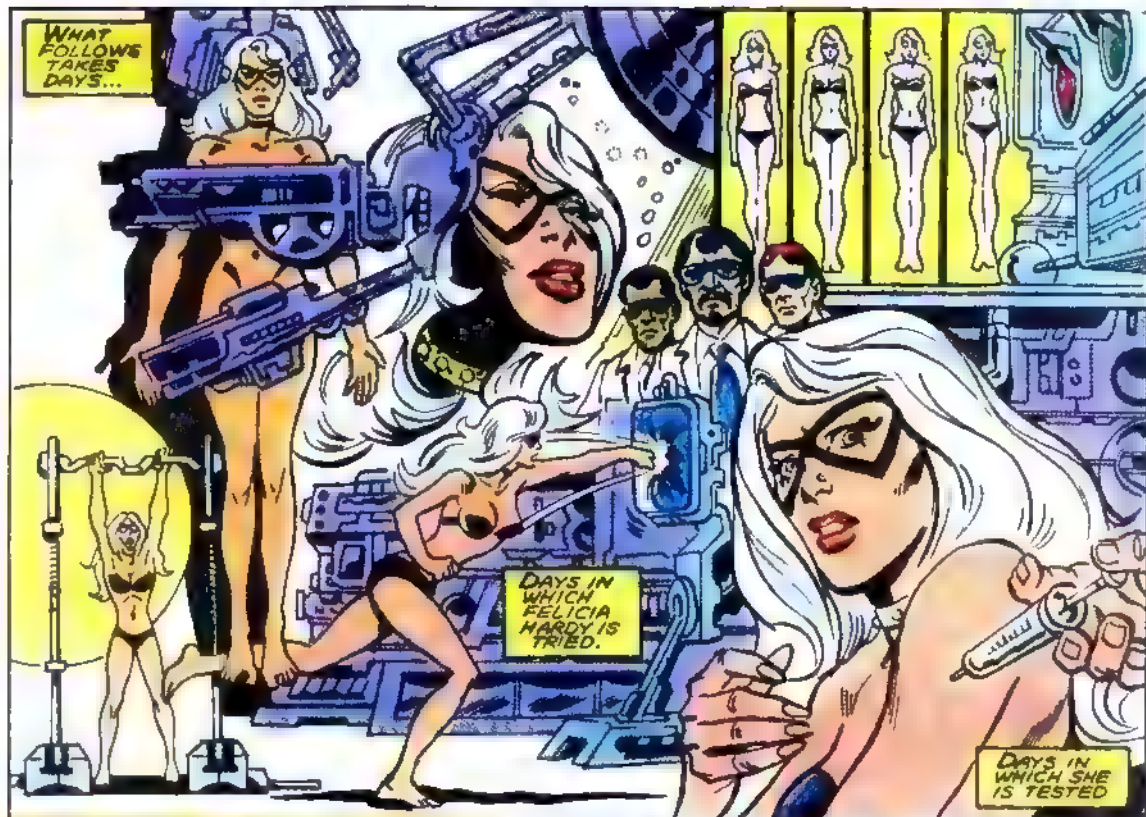
--AND THEN TURN AROUND AND **NAIL** THIS GUY AS SOON AS MY OBLIGATION IS FULF LLED.

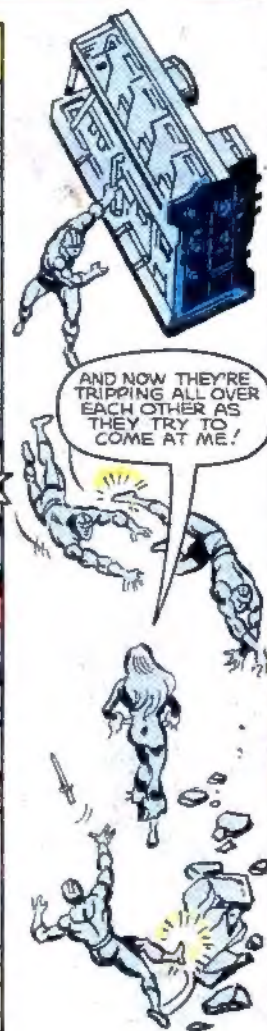
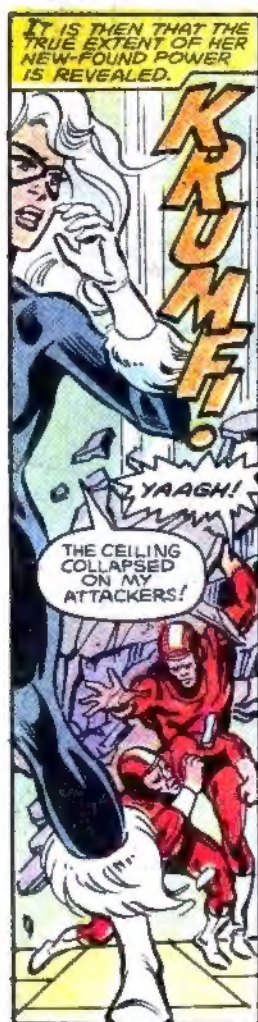
AND SPIDER NEED NEVER KNOW ANYTHING... EXCEPT THAT I'LL HAVE **POWER!**

ALL RIGHT, WHOEVER YOU ARE-- YOU'VE GOT A DEAL!



THEN, MY LOVELY... SHALL WE BEGIN...?





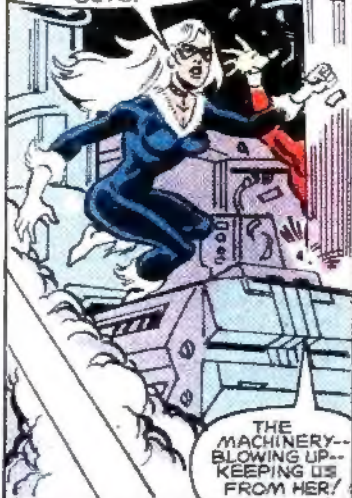
EXULTING, EXHILARATED, THE BEAUTEFUL BLACK CAT PROCEEDS TO TEST HER POWERS FURTHER.

ALL I HAVE TO DO IS PUT MYSELF IN POSITION TO BE ASSAULTED--



WHUNFF! HEY!

--AND "ACCIDENTS" BEFALL THE BAD GUYS!



THE MACHINERY--
BLOWING UP--
KEEPING US
FROM HER!



OUR GUNS--
BACKFIRING!

NO! NOT
ACCI-
DENTS...

INDEED NOT, CHILD. WHAT YOU ARE MANIFESTING NOW IS PURE AND SIMPLE, THE ABILITY TO INFLICT **BAD LUCK** ON WHOMSOEVER IS FOOLHARDY ENOUGH TO **CROSS THE BLACK CAT'S PATH!**



I USED TO HAVE TO **FAKE** SUCH A POWER--TO RIG LOCATIONS SO THAT "BAD LUCK" WOULD SEEM TO BEFALL WHOEVER FELL INTO MY PREARRANGED TRAPS.

BUT TO HAVE SUCH DISASTERS **OCUR NATURALLY** TO WHOEVER I'M FIGHTING--WHY, THAT PUTS ME IN A **POWER-CLASS** RIGHT UP THERE WITH **SPIDER-MAN!**

THEN, YOU ACKNOWLEDGE THAT **THE KINGPIN** HAS FULFILLED HIS PART OF THE BARGAIN?

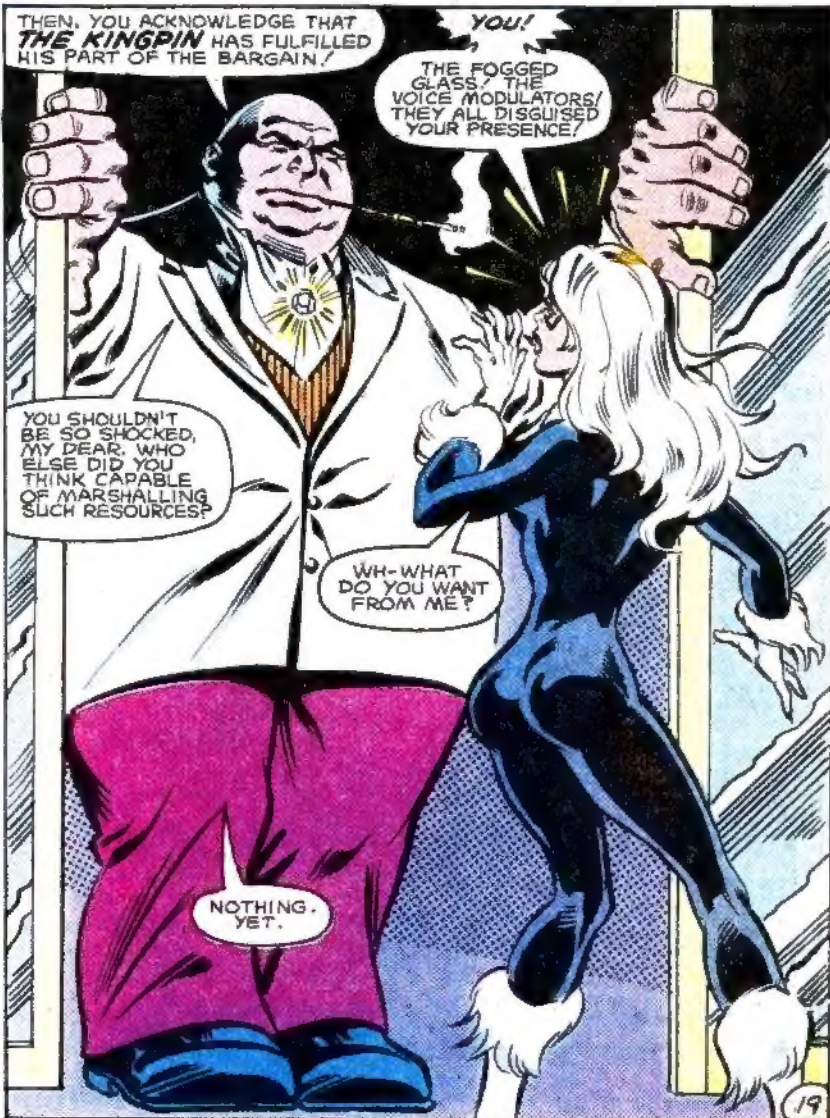
YOU!

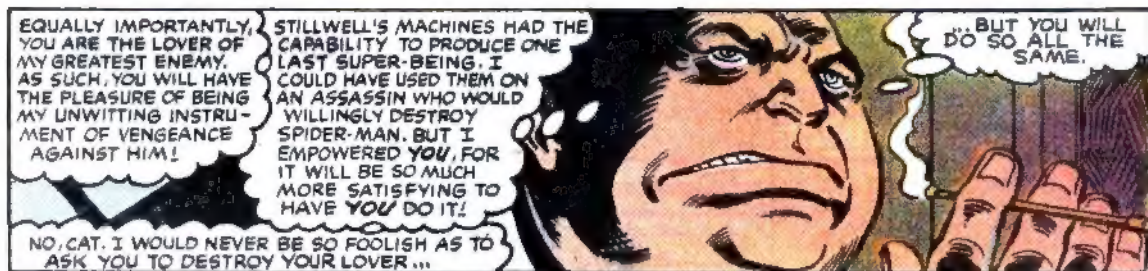
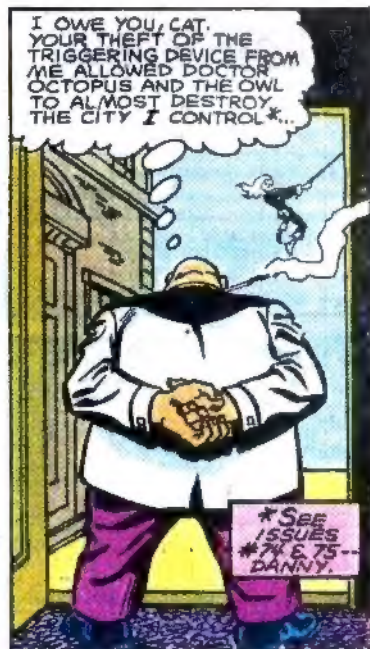
THE FOGGED GLASS, THE VOICE MODULATORS! THEY ALL DISGUISED YOUR PRESENCE?

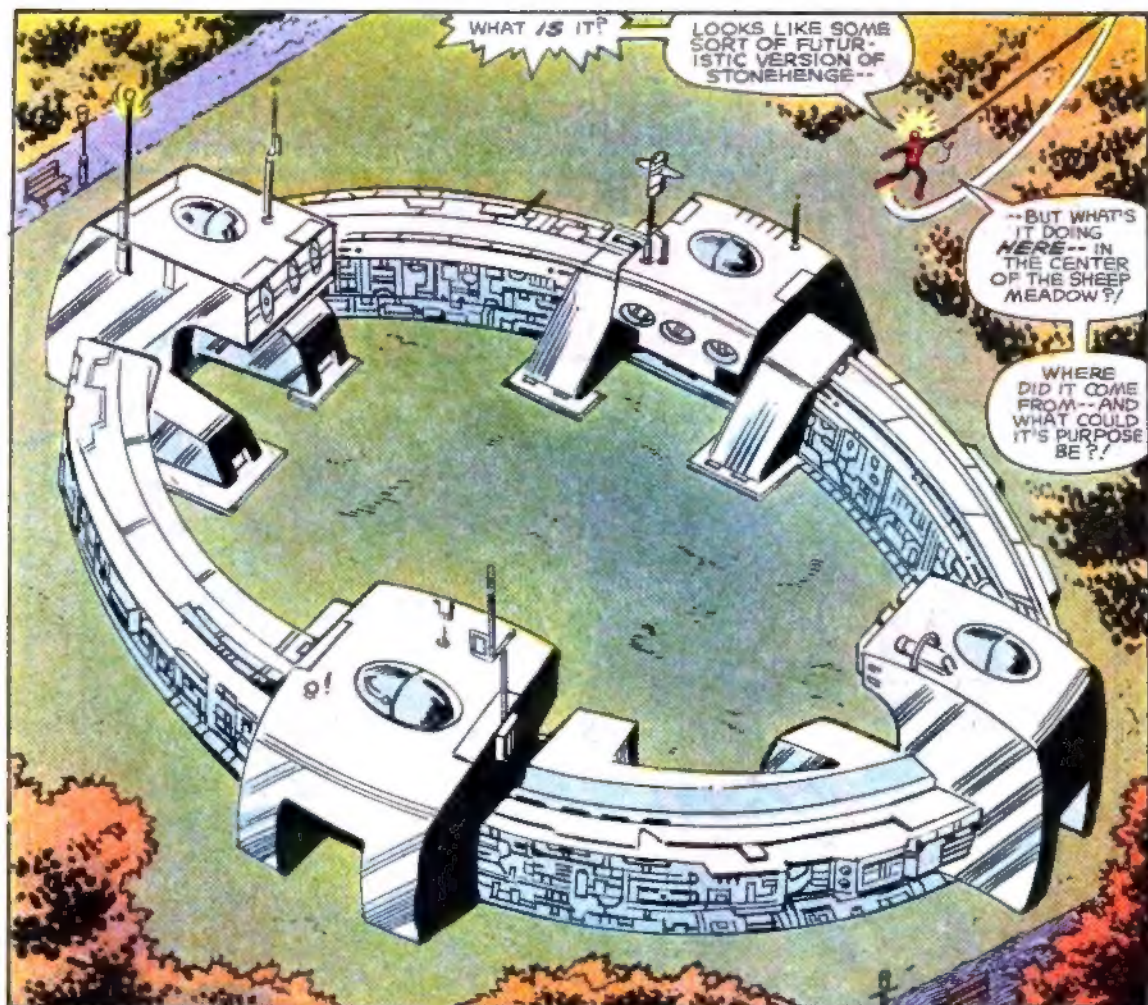
YOU SHOULDN'T BE SO SHOCKED, MY DEAR, WHO ELSE DID YOU THINK CAPABLE OF MARSHALLING SUCH RESOURCES?

WH-WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME?

NOTHING. YET.





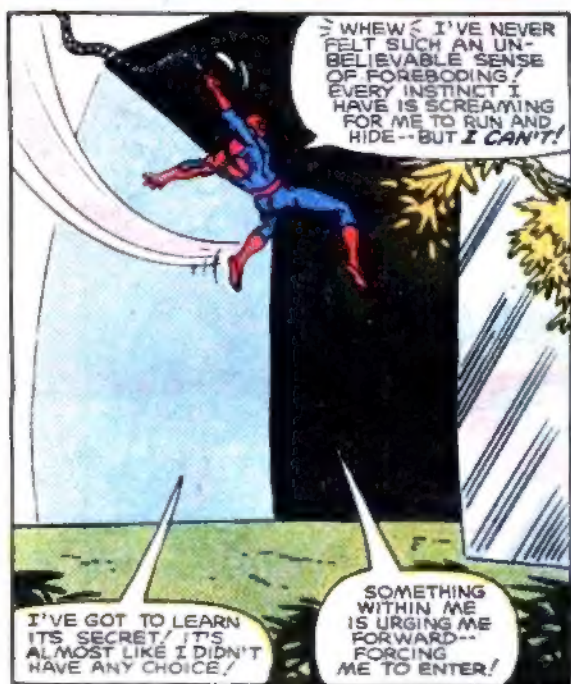


WHAT IS IT?

LOOKS LIKE SOME SORT OF FUTURISTIC VERSION OF STONEHENGE--

--BUT WHAT'S IT DOING HERE-- IN THE CENTER OF THE SHEEP MEADOW?!

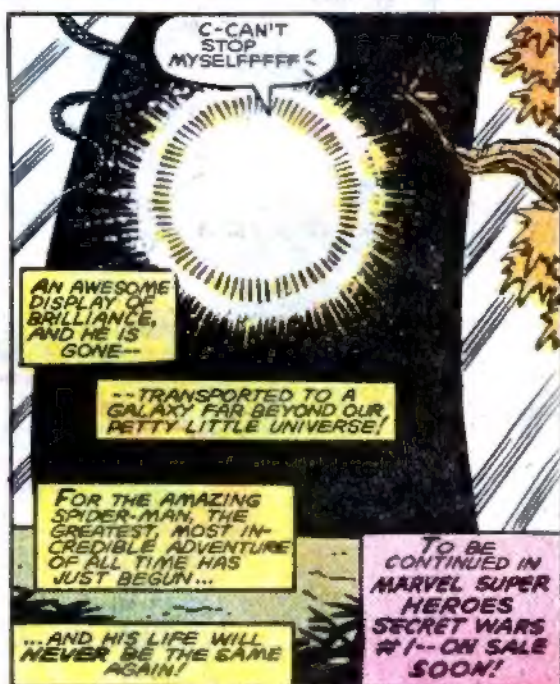
WHERE DID IT COME FROM-- AND WHAT COULD ITS PURPOSE BE?!



WHEW! I'VE NEVER FELT SUCH AN UNBELIEVABLE SENSE OF FOREBODING! EVERY INSTINCT I HAVE IS SCREAMING FOR ME TO RUN AND HIDE-- BUT I CAN'T!

I'VE GOT TO LEARN ITS SECRET! IT'S ALMOST LIKE I DIDN'T HAVE ANY CHOICE!

SOMETHING WITHIN ME IS URGING ME FORWARD-- FORCING ME TO ENTER!



C-CAN'T STOP MYSELF!!!!

AN AWESOME DISPLAY OF BRILLIANCE, AND HE IS GONE--

--TRANSPORTED TO A GALAXY FAR BEYOND OUR PETTY LITTLE UNIVERSE!

FOR THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, THE GREATEST, MOST INCREDIBLE ADVENTURE OF ALL TIME HAS JUST BEGUN...

...AND HIS LIFE WILL NEVER BE THE SAME AGAIN!

TO BE CONTINUED IN MARVEL SUPER HEROES SECRET WARS #1-- ON SALE SOON!